

**REMARKS**

Applicants have studied the Office Action dated November 13, 2003, and have made amendments to the claims. Claims 20-24 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclosure. Claims 1-19 remain pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested. Applicants submit that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance.

In response to the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, Applicants elect for continued prosecution of the Group I claims (i.e., claims 1-19) directed to a method/computer-instructions embedded in a computer-readable medium for managing orders on a centralized hub processing unit in a hub and spoke architecture for a multilateral environment.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application and the claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to direct future correspondence regarding this application to the undersigned attorney at the address below.

**PLEASE CALL** the undersigned attorney at (561) 989-9811 should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 12, 2004

By: 

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